The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Entered as second-class matter September 20, 1912, at the Post-Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 11, 1918.

AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

VOL. 15, NO. 12. WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 1925. WHOLE NO. 739.

Company 'Union' Is Old Plan In New Garb

The company "union" has a double value to trade union opponents.

It permits these employers to retain as complete control of working conditions as in the days of the so-called "open" shop, and it drugs employes into the belief that they really own themselves.

The so-called "open" shop plan often aroused resentment among unorganized. It was avowedly based on the principle of individual bargaining. It ignored the group instinct of every human being.

Forced to fight against the spirit of the age, the so-called "open" shop employer has abandoned his frontal attack on the trade unions. Now he makes a flank movement.

He has concluded there is nothing crafty or cunning in opposing trade unionism with gun men and spies. This method is vulgar and crude in an age of efficiency and social engineering. So he substitutes honey for open antagonism.

He presents his company "union" and sells a few shares of company stock to his employes on the installment plan.

The company "union" plan is bedecked with every alluring term and catchy phrase that skilled advertisers and trained psychologists can invent.

The employer prepares the constitution and by-laws. He pays all expenses. His superintendents and foreman take an active part in the election of "union" representatives, who meet in the employer's office.

Trade unionists should be alert to the new method of noiseless attack by employers who have awakened to the value of posing as a "friend."

Organized labor must continually point out that members of a company "union" have no more control of themselves than they had under the so-called "open" shop plan.

Now, as then, they are deluded by phrase mongering.

COOLIDGE NOMINATOR GETS U. S. JUDGESHIP

Washington, June 6.—The president has appointed Walter McCament of Portland, Ore., judge of the federal circuit court of appeals, ninth circuit, with headquarters in San Francisco.

The appointment pays a debt that was contracted under conditions that are unusual in the political history of this country.

Five years ago the Republican national convention was in session in Chicago. The day was hot and the delegates were tired. The previous day they nominated Senator Harding as candidate for president, and it was common gossip that Senator Lenroot of Wisconsin had been agreed upon during the night conferences as candidate for vice president.

The secretary called the roll of states. Oregon came before Wisconsin. Unexpectedly, Delegate McCament of the former state secured recognition, and in a sizzling speech on "law and order" nominated Governor Coolidge of Massachusetts, who was in the public eye because of the Boston policemen's strike. The governor took no part in the strike, but good publicity created a different belief—and he was nominated with shouts.

The president now pays a political debt by appointing to the federal judiciary for life the man who was directly responsible for placing him in the White House. Judge McCament was formerly associate justice of the Oregon supreme court.

Senator Hiram Johnson lost no time in expressing his disapproval of the McCament appointment. The California senator recalled McCament's public statement when he was active in the Oregon state-wide primary for delegate to the Republican national convention: "I have avoided committing myself to any candidate for president in order that I might be in a better position to support the candidate who wins out at the Oregon primary."

Senator Jackson won out in the primary, but McCament voted for Harding.

"A man who will not respect a law under which he seeks the favor of his fellow citizens, deliberately and officially deceives his people, breaks his faith and violates a statute of his state, is unfit to be a federal judge or administer the law against others," said Senator Johnson.

FEDERAL MINE BOARD REFUTES WAGE CLAIM

New York, June 6.—Ellis Searles, editor of the United Mine Workers' Journal, quoted the United States coal commission to answer Walter Gordon Merritt's claim that coal miners "receive the highest pay in the United States, outside of the building industry."

Gordon is a professional union baiter. He was attorney against the Danbury hatters in the famous Loewe case, and he is now attempting to create a hostile public opinion against the miners.

The coal commission was created by congress, and its members were appointed by the president. They spent one year and $600,000 studying this industry.

"That commission," said Editor Searles, "reported that in the year 1921, the year of the inquiry, the average annual earnings of all men employed in the soft coal industry amounted to approximately $1,400, and the anthracite workers earned an average of approximately $1,600. Since that time authentic mine workers have received an increase of 10 per cent, and yet, even with this increase, they earn an average of less than $150 a month."

TAX PUBLICITY FAVORED

Washington, June 6.—The tax publicity law has been strengthened by the United States supreme court's decision upholding that act, senators in this city declare. These leaders say there is not the slightest danger of the law being repealed.

Senators Borah, Couzens and Norris are agreed that tax publicity will continue. Senator King, a member of the finance committee, said: "The states have tax publicity and it is silly to argue that the same thing should not apply to the federal government."

PAINTERS FORCED OUT

Portland, Ore., June 6.—Refusal of employers to discuss wage demands with their organized painters forced these workers to strike. The painters ask for a $9 rate and a five-day work week. There is an acute shortage of painters in this section and the shorter work week would also prolong the life of those engaged in this calling.

A BACKWARD-LOOKING GENT

Nashville, Tenn., June 6.—The union shop must be driven out of this state if business is to continue, saith John E. Edgerton, president of the Tennessee manufacturers' association. This backward-looking gent has again donned his war paint and intends, for the fifteenth time, to put the unions out of business.

WHO IS RIGHT IN OIL CASE?

The minority report by the senate oil investigating committee last year upheld the leasing of the navy oil reserves. The report stated that "patriotically, Secretaries Denby and Fall sought to effect what would avoid the possibility of a repetition of world war experiences, at least as far as oil is concerned."

The minority report was favored by nearly a score of senators.

Federal Judge McCormick has just set aside the lease of the Elk Hills navy oil reserve. He said that Fall's transfer of the reserve to Doheny was "a fraud on the United States"; that Secretary of the Navy Denby did not know what he was signing, and that Doheny's alleged loan of $100,000 to his friend Fall—who happened to be secretary of the interior—was "a colossal infamy."

Who is right? Judge McCormick or the senators who voted for the minority report?

MINERS ARE GAGGED; CAN'T TALK UNIONISM

Wheeling, W. Va., June 6.—Federal Judge Baker has declined to dissolve the temporary injunction against union miners who are ordered to cease picketing and not to persuade nonunionists to join their ranks.

After Judge Baker read his decision attorneys representing 19 other coal companies prepared to present arguments in their application for the same kind of an injunction.

Charleston, W. Va., June 6.—Because they asked nonunion mine workers to quit work and join the United Mine Workers, 136 unionists are being tried in Marion county by Circuit Court Judge Meredith on contempt charges.

The facts developed by the trial show that the accused were arrested at the instigation of the New England fuel and transportation company. The general manager of these mines said every coal company witness has sworn that no violence, no intimidation and no threats were made by the unionists. The charge, according to the coal company, is that they asked the non-union miners to join them.

RAILROAD OFFICIAL MAKES BEST LABOR TALK

Denver, June 6.—A railroad official made the best labor speech Edward Keating ever heard, according to the former congressman and present editor of Labor. Mr. Keating is visiting this city. He was tendered a testimonial dinner by friends, and in discussing the labor movement, said:

"The best labor speech I ever knew about was made by an official of the New York Central. That road had serious difficulties with its employes, but it was fighting a similar settlement with its clerks. The official was asked why.

"'The enginemen can tie us up. We had to settle with them,' he said.

"'There is your answer,'" concluded Mr. Keating. "Industrial peace will come when you have the power to compel bargaining instead of inviting attack.

"I am getting more and more to see that the solution of all our difficulties is in that old slogan, '100 per cent organization.' When we are organized, all else will be added unto us."

CAN'T TAX JUDGE'S SALARY

Washington, June 6.—The United States supreme court has ruled that the income tax does not apply to the salary of a judge of the court of claims. The court said that the salary is fixed by law. The case came up from Baltimore, where the collector of internal revenue required Judge Graham of the court of claims to pay a tax on his salary of $7,500. Judge Graham brought suit to recover the amount. He was upheld by the Maryland courts.

OIL COMPANY STOPS BONUS

Long Beach, Calif., June 6.—The Union oil company has notified its hundreds of employes that their bonus will be discontinued on July 1. These workers deserted the Oil Workers' union that secured for them the eight-hour day and substantial wage increases. The inevitable has happened, and unionists now say: "What did we tell you?"

JOE VALENTINE TO PICNIC

San Francisco, June 6.—Joseph F. Valentine, former A. F. of L. vice president and former president of the International Molders' union, will serve as honorary chairman at the fifty-third annual picnic of Iron Molders' union No. 164. Mr. Valentine recently resided in this city, but has been living in Cincinnati where he has been recovering from his illness. His old-time friends will give him a royal reception at the picnic.

LOUIS A. COOLIDGE DIES

Milton, Mass., June 6.—Louis A. Coolidge, former treasurer of the United States machinery corporation, died at his home here. He organized the Sentinels of the Republic and was a leading figure in the fight against the federal child labor amendment.

MILLIONS ARE "MADE" ON RAILROAD MERGER

Washington, June 6.—A tale that recalled the days of "high finance" was frankly told by O. P. Van Swearingen before the interstate commerce commission in defense of the Nickel Plate railroad merger. Minority stockholders of the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad are objecting to the merger.

The witness said he and his brother started eight years ago with $500,000. By "pyramiding" their holdings they secured several railroads and now have a profit of $16,812,809. In all instances they made relatively small initial payments, issued long-term notes for the remainder and deposited what they had acquired as collateral on these notes.

They were backed by the Chase national bank of New York city, which loaned them $1,000,000 (when they organized the Nickel Plate securities company in 1916.

It was shown that new Nickel Plate stock was issued to holders of stock in the individual railroads. As a result of this transaction a debt of $21,000,000 was paid off and the brothers retained control of the roads.

The witness made no attempt to conceal or excuse his transactions, but insisted that the merger has resulted in efficiency.

The roads secured are the New York, Chicago & St. Louis (Nickel Plate), the Toledo, St. Louis & Western (Clover Leaf) and the Lake Erie & Western. These together with the Chesapeake & Ohio, Hocking Valley, Erie and Pere Marquette are intended to constitute the future Nickel Plate system.

FEDERAL HIGH COURT JARS ANTI-TRUST LAW

Washington, June 6.—In a decision that removes from the Sherman anti-trust law one of its main supports the United States supreme court has ruled that business men may exchange price and cost information.

The decision was made in two cases known as the cement case and the maple flooring case. Chief Justice Taft and Associate Justices Sanford and McReynolds dissented. The first two merely reiterated their dissent, but Justice McReynolds wrote what is declared to be "one of the most stirring opinions ever handed down by a supreme court justice."

"These cases disclose carefully developed plans to cut down normal competition in interstate trade and commerce," said Justice McReynolds. "Long impelled by this purpose appellants have adopted various expedients through which they evidently hoped to defeat the policy of the law without subjecting themselves to punishment.

"They are parties to definite and unusual combinations and agreements whereby each is obliged to reveal to confederates the intimate details of his business and is restricted in his freedom of action.

"It seems to me that ordinary knowledge of human nature and of the compelling force of greed should permit no serious doubt concerning the ultimate outcome of the arrangements."

JOHNSTON RE-ELECTED

Washington, June 6.—In the most hotly-contested campaign in the history of the International Association of Machinists, Wm. H. Johnston has been selected international president. E. C. Davison, general secretary, Washington, and Fred Hewitt, editor of Machinists' Journal, have also been re-elected.

The general vice presidents for the United States are: P. J. Conlon, J. T. Thorpe, H. W. Wilson, H. H. Lawson, Robert Fechner and William Hannon. James Somerville was elected Canadian general vice president. Delegates to the A. F. of L. are C. W. Fry, Dan Haggerty, Wm. Larkin, George Marshall and C. F. Wills.

PLUMBERS ORGANIZE

Klamath Falls, Ore., June 6.—Plumbers at this place have organized and are affiliated with the trade union movement.

NEW EIGHT-HOUR BILL

Springfield, Ill., June 6.—Undaunted by defeat of the women's eight-hour bill, Representative (Mrs.) Lottie Holman O'Neil has introduced another bill of the same character in the state legislature.

ANCIENT SPY SYSTEM FOREIGN TO AMERICA

New York, June 6.—Writing in a local newspaper against the proposal that all aliens in this country be registered, Congressman Celler declares that this "is only an entering wedge to greater danger."

"Already," said Mr. Celler, "the police commissioner of New York city, having returned from South America, brings back the idea that in addition to the registration of aliens, which he has recommended, all citizens should be compelled to carry fingerprinted cards of identification with photographs affixed. We are told that the honest citizen can get his card for $1. The crook, however, as the system is worked in South America, can not get one; without a card, we are told, he can not get employment. It seems to me that under these circumstances he would rob all the more diligently, because he could not get means of subsistence by work."

In answer to the claim that the registration system would prevent smuggling or "bootlegging" of aliens, Congressman Celler says these advocates are "enthusiastically misguided."

"Registration of aliens has always been utterly foreign to us," said Mr. Celler. "It would give rise to an espionage that would be as remorseless as it would be cruel. It would be harking back to the European spy system.

"We have had sad experiences with previous attempts to register aliens. It was the enforcement of the alien and sedition laws by the Federalist party under President Adams, back in 1800, that swept the federalists from power and gave rise to the Democratic-Republican party and the consequent election of Thomas Jefferson."

TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN BAD SHAPE; PROFIT-HUNGRY BOSSES BLAMED

New York, June 6.—The textile industry is suffering from ancient machinery and a refusal of employers to make changed conditions, according to Thomas F. McMahon, president of the United Textile Workers of America.

"The rapid development of artificial silk, or 'rayon,' during the past few years has curbed the gamblers and increased their hold on products, because the consuming public has taken very kindly to rayon fabrics, either made or mixed with cotton and wool," Mr. McMahon said.

"The mills that formerly produced plain cotton goods and have met the changed conditions will succeed, but those will managements who refuse to meet the demands of the consuming public find themselves in an unenviable position. It is this class of employers who blame other things than other people for spotty conditions in the textile industry.

"With them the tariff is either too low or wages too high, or both. Or again, the people are not wearing enough plain cotton materials.

"Let these cotton and wool mill men put back into their plants a portion of the excess profits of the last few years in the shape of new machinery and they will soon find new textile profits to offset the investment. There is a surplus of ancient machinery in most of our mills. It is a drag on improved machinery. It is a waste of money and energy to partly install a plant with new machines and with old machinery of the past. That is antiquated machinery.

"It has been customary to assume that mass or quantity production would reduce overhead cost to such an extent that small units of production could find the going hard. The American woolen company is by far the largest manufacturer of wool, but it has found that it can not keep its machinery operating anywhere like full capacity, while smaller mills have been consistently. There must be a reason for this condition. It might possibly be that the small mills have some individual attention from those who control them, thus demonstrating that where worker and owner keep in close touch better results are obtained. On the other hand, it might be that the larger corporations are handicapped in choosing the men who manage their units, because of outside and sometimes inside influences."

President McMahon warns woolen trust employes that their wages will be reduced if they become unorganized.

"The men and women in the woolen and worsted mills must be prepared for the worst," he said. "This warning to the workers is not fancy, but is based on facts, after thorough investigation."

ACTIVE UNIONISM URGED BY OFFICIAL

Detroit, Mich., June 6.—Addressing an enthusiastic meeting of trade unionists in this city, A. F. of L. Vice President Woll declared that the time is now for workers to strengthen the trade unions. The meeting was called to launch this city's greatest organizing campaign. Mr. Woll referred to the wave of anti-unionism that swept the nation following the close of the world war. This placed the unions in a defensive attitude. "We have withstood the greatest opposition that could be brought against us," he said.

A. F. of L. Organizer Collins is assisting local unionists. Each union will have a committee of three to direct activities. These will confer weekly with the general organizing committee.

It is planned to visit every trade union. Every local meeting will be urged to interest the unorganized.

LOW-WAGE ALIENS DEBARRED BY JAPS

New York, June 6.—Cables from Tokio announce that the Japanese government "has decided to prohibit the immigration of Chinese laborers into Japan."

It is stated that large numbers of Chinese are working in Japan at low wages and that these, together with Koreans, supply the unemployment situation more serious.

Japan's protection of the living standards of its workers is identical to the position taken in the United States by advocates of Japanese immigration, for which they are condemned by the jingoes of both countries.

UNIONS URGED TO AID PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN

Washington, June 6.—Officers of the A. F. of L. and of the union label trades department of the A. F. of L. have issued a financial appeal in behalf of the campaign of organization and publicity that was indorsed last month by a conference of representatives of national and international unions in this city.

The appeal is signed by President Green and Secretary Morrison of the A. F. of L. and President Hays and Secretary-Treasurer Manning of the union label trades department.

The campaign will be countrywide and will continue for 40 weeks. Five groups of four persons each will convey organized labor's message to the workers through lectures, literature and moving pictures, under direction of the union label trades department.

It is estimated that the cost of the five groups for 40 weeks will be $120,000. Every trade union is requested to respond quickly and liberally to this appeal that the campaign may be started as early as possible. Checks are to be made payable to John J. Manning, secretary-treasurer, union label trades department, A. F. of L. building, Washington, D. C.

In the appeal it is stated that "there can be no doubt of the great benefits to which will result to the labor movement from an intensive campaign of this character."

In many sections of the country campaigns have already been launched by the organized workers, who report increased membership and interest among wage workers. A feature of the campaign is the importance of workers using their purchasing power to their own interests by demands for the union label.

PRODUCTION EXCEEDS PEOPLE'S BUYING POWER

New York, June 6.—While surface thinkers insist that trade unions "limit production," students of industry declare that the nation's producing capacity is far in excess of its buying power.

This point was again brought out in the latest weekly market letters issued by Hayden, Stone & Co., and Moody's, this city. In referring to the general business situation, the former said:

"Plant capacity is so much in excess of average consumption that it cannot be expected that this will be fully employed except for very limited periods."

In its comment on the excess of idle capital in large banks, the Moody letter said:

"This plethora of capital is due not to any extreme dullness of trade, but to the fact that producing capacity is so well up to requirements that there is a dearth of opportunity for employing funds in additional capacity. The scarcity is to find something to produce."

AN ANTI-UNION "LOGICIAN"

Kansas City, Mo., June 6.—H. H. Anderson, secretary of the local employers' association, "explains" the meaning of the first class.

In a frenzied appeal for business men to oppose organized labor, Anderson says:

"The employers' only chance to escape complete annihilation in his business career is to become associated with his fellow business men in a perfectly responsible and legitimate organization for self protection."

"We appeal to you as free American citizens. Stand aloof from the petty entanglements and make your employment contracts alone with your workers."

ICE CREAM HOLES ARE COSTLY

Washington, June 6.—The public eats a billion quarts of ice cream annually, but one-fifth of this is air holes which means a loss of $66,000,000, according to Joseph G. Rogers, secretary of the New Jersey department of weights and measures.

OIL CONTRACT HELD ILLEGAL; JUDGE CONDEMNS HUGE GRAB

Los Angeles, Calif., June 6.—In ordering the Doheny oil interests to surrender their lease of the Elk Hills oil reserves, Federal Judge McCormick upheld the small group in the United States senate who have battled to preserve the nation's oil reserves that are intended for navy use. Every charge by these protestors, and by private citizens, has been sustained by Judge McCormick.

The court ordered the lease cancelled on the ground that President Harding had no legal right to order control of the oil reserves transferred from Secretary of the Navy Denby to Secretary of the Interior Fall. The court considered Fall's transfer of the reserves to Doheny "a fraud upon the United States." The $100,000 Doheny paid Fall as an alleged gift, was "a colossal infamy," Judge McCormick said.

The court was as caustic in his comment as any senator or other opponent who has been jeered and denounced because of opposition to this gigantic grab that was engineered by business men and the nation's highest officials.

The evidence showed that after Fall secured control of the oil reserves from Denby, through the Harding order, Denby was ignorant of future transactions. Fall engineered the deal. Denby simply "signed on the dotted line."

Denby signed "without full knowledge of the contents of said documents," was the court's reference to the former secretary of the navy, who was charged by law with control of the oil reserves.

The reason Denby's signature was attached to the leases, after the oil reserves had passed from his control, was because the Doheny attorneys themselves had their doubts about the legality of the Harding order.

The claim that "military necessity" made it impossible to reveal all the papers in connection with the deal, was rejected by Judge McCormick. He said the real reason for secrecy "was in order that congress and the public should not know what was being done."

The court ordered the Doheny interests to repay the government for all oil taken from the Elk Hills reserves, which are located near Bakersfield, California. It is estimated that there are 140,000,000 barrels of oil in these reserves, and that 12,000,000 barrels have been extracted to date.

The case is the result of the senate oil investigation, starting in October, 1923, that exposed the Teapot Dome (Wyoming) and Elk Hills deals. Fall and Denby were driven from the cabinet.

The case tried here was a civil suit and involved the cancellation of the Doheny contract.

Charges of criminal conspiracy to defraud are pending against the defendants.

PUBLIC POWER PLANTS FAVORED BY WORKERS

Washington, June 6.—Governmental development and operation of Muscle Shoals was favored by William Green, president of the A. F. of L., in response to an inquiry from the Muscle Shoals inquiry commission as to the best disposition of that valuable water power.

The commission was appointed by the president to investigate the subject, following the senate's rejection of the Underwood leasing bill.

"Since nearly all government funds have already been expended," President Green said, "it would be a highly desirable and advantageous experience to continue Muscle Shoals as a government undertaking and experimental development and as standards for private undertakings and to furnish power commissions with experimental information and records of costs."

He also advocated a public policy to retain ownership for the people and to establish a system of public and high hydro-electric and water power undertakings where conditions and terms of operation and development shall be determined. Where leases are granted, he said, they should be for a specific period only, with 50 years as a maximum.

President Green called the commission's attention to a resolution adopted by the A. F. of L. convention in 1923. It opposed the subsidizing of private corporations for the purpose of establishing a privately owned and operated power system and favored the public development and control of all water resources for the service of the people at cost.

SURVEY OF POOR SHOWS 94 PER CENT DEFECTIVE

New York, June 6.—A health survey shown by 94 per cent of the members of families coming under the care of the New York association for improving condition of the poor are physically defective in some respect. The survey covers 62 families of 373 individuals selected at random, as typical.

Forty-two per cent of the children and 36 per cent of the adults were found to be undernourished and suffering from one or more of the diseases which result from insufficient nutrition.

Ninety-five per cent of the adults and 72 per cent of the children were found in need of dental treatment. Respiratory defects, chiefly adenoids and tonsils, were found in 52 per cent of the children. Defective eyesight was found in 39 per cent of the adults and 27 per cent of the children.

CHEMICAL INDUSTRY DEADLY TO WORKERS

New York, June 6.—Protection to workers in the chemical industry is urged by the American chemical society. The death rate is about two and one-half times that for the non-industrial group.

Benzol poisoning is called a "very real industrial hazard." Silver nitrate, it is stated, has replaced mercury as a danger in mirror manufacture.

A survey of bleaching powder factories in this state show that this industry has gone back to the old physical effects experienced in this country in 1879, and which brought legislation in England.

MINE BUREAU CHIEF QUITS

Washington, June 6.—Dr. H. Foster Bain, director of the United States bureau of mines, has resigned. He has accepted the position of secretary of the American institute of mining and metallurgical engineering. This organization has a membership of 9,000. Its activities include steel, copper, coal and the petroleum industries.

BAKERS RAISE WAGES

Spokane, Wash., June 6.—The Bakers' union has negotiated a new wage agreement. Rates for 39 per cent of these workers is advanced 50 cents a day. The others are increased $2 a week.

JAILED FOR PEONAGE; JUDGE UPHOLDS LAW

Pensacola, Fla., June 6.—Charles Land, Calhoun county turpentine operator, was sentenced to one year in the Atlanta penitentiary by Federal Judge Sheppard for peonage. The accused is one of several persons, including county officials, who are charged with the same offense. The officials arrested negroes who escaped from the turpentine camp. In sentencing Land, the court said that "all evidence tends to show that peonage is practiced in this state."

"There is no provocation," he said, "to seek out and bring back to work a man who quits his job while under contract to work. There is marked inhibition in the law, however, against a man being brought back against his will to work for a master. This law was not made particularly to protect the negro, for all classes are included in the statute. It is a fact that in some sections white persons are in sore need of its aid."

In the peonage cases that have come under his observation, the court said:

"Some states have attempted to make laws seeking to offset the peonage statutes, but peonage and slavery have been abolished forever, and it is idle for any state to attempt to flaunt a desire to return to old conditions."

"CAN'T-STRIKE" BILL PASSED IN NOVA SCOTIA

Ottawa, Ontario, June 6.—Dominion trade unionists are protesting against a so-called "industrial peace act" that was rushed through the Nova Scotia legislature just before adjournment. It repeals the former conciliation and arbitration acts and establishes what amounts to compulsory arbitration in mining and public utilities.

Under the act a board can pass on the constitution and by-laws of every trade union. Heavy penalties will be inflicted on violators of the board's award.

"Measures such as these mean a reintroduction into Canada of chattel slavery," said Tom Moore, president of the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress.

"Depending upon prisons and baynonets for its enforcement, compelling free men to labor under conditions forced upon them by others is re-establishing industrial slavery and destroys collective bargaining," said President Moore.

The act will not be in force until it is proclaimed by government authorities. The Nova Scotia unionists have been very careful lest any law be violated when workers appeal for aid on behalf of the Sydney coal miners now on strike against the British empire steel corporation. Trade unionists are confident that Premier Armstrong will be equally insistent that every right of the workers is guarded.

WANT GUN MEN CURBED

Charleston, W. Va., June 6.—The state legislature is considering Senator Hugus' bill that would abolish the operators' gun men in this state. Governor Gore favors the bill. It provides that only citizens can carry arms, they must be licensed and must be residents of West Virginia for at least one year. The license is good only in the county in which it is issued, and may be revoked at any time by the governor or any circuit court. Permits to maintain machine guns must be approved by the governor.

BAKERS WORK LONG HOURS

Vancouver, British Columbia, June 6.—Trade unionists charge that unorganized bakers in this city are working 13 to 16 hours a day for $20 a week.

COLORADO WORKERS UNITE

Port Collins, Col., June 6.—Laborers in this city have organized. Similar action has been taken by hod carriers and building laborers.